

SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

WALDEN, Greg (Republican)
Representative, 2nd District, Oregon
Elected 1998 to 106th Congress



BACKGROUND

Born: The Dalles, Oregon - 10 January 1957

Home: Hood River, Oregon

Marital status: Married (Mylene) - 1 child (and 1 deceased)

Religion: Episcopalian

Education: Univ of Oregon, BS, 1981

Military: None specified

Profession: Radio station owner; congressional aide

Political: Oregon House, 1989-95 (maj whip, 1991-93); Oregon Senate 1995-97 (assistant majority leader 1995-97). Defeated Kevin M. Campbell (D) in the 1998 general election with 61% of the vote to succeed Rep Bob Smith (R) who retired. Reelected in 2000 with 75% of the vote and in 2002 with 73%.

Rep Walden, a moderate, has been consistently critical of the land-use policies carried out by the Federal government. Other priorities include overhaul of Federal regulatory policy under the Endangered Species Act. Wants to make it easier for private-property owners to challenge local planning and zoning conditions in Federal court. Concerned about reducing barriers to exporting US agricultural products. Supports right of women to have abortions.

In the 106th Congress, Majority Leader Dick Armey (R-TX) tapped him to give the Republican response to one of President Clinton's weekly radio addresses. Introduced H.R. 2950, a bill to provide for the exchange of certain land in the State of Oregon. Expressed support for H.R. 4444, normal trade relations with China. Called for the release of Edmond Pope, an American businessman who was held captive in Russia on charges of espionage. Sharing a story that illustrated the difficulty many military retirees face in the effort to pursue the promise of lifelong health care, highlighted the importance of honoring our Nation's commitment to military retirees. Congratulated members of Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 186th Infantry of the Oregon National Guard upon their return from the Middle East as part of Operation Southern Watch. Expressed support for H.R. 755, Guam War Restitution Act.

In the 107th Congress, commented on US military strikes against Iraqi anti-aircraft facilities: "These strikes were needed to protect US pilots who are patrolling the no-fly zones in northern and southern Iraq. There can be no compromising the safety of our military personnel who are working to protect Iraqi citizens from their own government and to thwart the development of weapons of mass destruction in that country." Expressed support for the passage of both the Veterans' Opportunities Act and the Veterans' Hospital Emergency Repair Act. Said "Veterans have given so much to America. They deserve our full support. We need to invest in health care and other services to live up to our promise to those who have served under our flag."

So far in the 108th Congress, voted "yes" to amendments allowing abortions at overseas facilities and "no" to granting DOD an environmental waiver.

Additional: Worked as chief of staff to former Oregon Rep Denny Smith (R)

AF Bases: Kingsley Field (ANG)

COMMITTEES

ENERGY AND COMMERCE -- Subc on Energy and Air Quality; Oversight & Investigations (VC); Telecommunications & the Internet

RESOURCES -- Subc Water and Power